Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Air Quality Bureau

SPARS Advisory Committee

December 15, 2011

Meeting Summary

SPARS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Purpose: To provide recommendations to the DNR related to the current and future operations of SPARS.

December 15, 2011, Meeting Updates

1. Summary from previous SPARS Advisory Committee meeting

Minutes from the November 5, 2010 SPARS Advisory Committee meeting were distributed to attendees. No comments or questions related to the previous meeting were brought up.

2. SPARS Updates

- A new Appeon server was installed in November to replace the old server. Its warranty and maintenance contract expired recently. The operating system for the new server was upgraded to Windows 2008 R2.
- Our DBA made some changes to the print-preview for SPARS Web and it is now faster and it works for all documents, regardless of size.
- New this past year, DNR offered SPARS training via webinar. There was a significant increase in participation (~200 users) and the majority of users preferred this type of training over classroom training. Tentative dates for 2012 SPARS training webinars are Feb. 15 (Title V), Mar 1 & 7 (minor sources). Webinars will be recorded and available for viewing from the DNR website.
- SPARS submittals break down (from February 2006 through December 2011):
    - Construction Applications: 132
    - Title V Emissions Inventories: 957
    - Minor Source Emissions Inventories: 1,266
    - Title V Part 1 Applications: 196
    - Title V Part 2 Applications: 68
- The SPARS Oracle server will be upgraded in Year 2012. The Air Quality Bureau will look to partner with the Water Quality Bureau to share maintenance costs for a new server that would house both AQB's SPARS and WQB's SDWIS Oracle databases.
- The Appeon server will need to be patched to fix compatibility issues between SPARS Web and Internet Explorer 9.0

- Through the 2010 Exchange Network Grant process, EPA approved our request for funds to complete the DNR's Portal which is being built to satisfy the requirements specified by CROMERR (Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule).
- Based on user requests, a new SPARS report was created that allows users to download emissions data from SPARS in an Excel spreadsheet. This allows gives users the ability to QA/QC their data before submitting it to DNR (e.g. sort, filter, search, etc.).
  http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/RegulatoryAir/SPARS/Reports.aspx
- DNR plans to update the SPARS Welcome Screen that first appears after logging in. The current information is outdated. DNR is evaluating the resources that would be involved with updating the SPARS online User Instructions.
- The DNR applied for an EPA grant last month for evaluating and developing business requirements for a new emissions inventory system called SLEIS. SLEIS was developed by a consortium of states under a previous grant, and may be a possible replacement option from SPARS in the future. If the grant is awarded, this project would begin in June 2013.

General Discussion

1. Would like ability to add more facilities associated to an ID
2. When a I look at old reports I get kicked out
3. Would like a single page to update all throughputs
4. Type ahead doesn't work well for me…would like a copy & paste feature
5. Issues with permanently deleting erasing data that was entered by mistake.
6. Attachments – limit to only adding to Form 1.0?
7. Require RO signature date to be entered before submitting to DNR
8. Would like ability to update all contacts for multiple sites on one page rather than by individual facility.
9. Form updates
10. Hold next meeting in July